



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 155

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2009

No. 121

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2009, at 2 p.m.

Senate

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2009

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico.

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, holy, powerful, loving, good, thank You for expressing Your love to us with generous gifts. We are grateful for the gift of Your mercy, which delivers those bruised and battered by life. Thank You also for the peaceful satisfaction You give us as we strive to do Your will. Lord, You have sustained our families and loved ones and nourished us with the blessings of faithful friends. You also have honored us with the privilege of being called your children. You have showered our land from Your bounty with freedom, justice, strength, and resilience.

Thank You for our lawmakers, who work to keep America strong, and for our military men and women and their families, who daily sacrifice to keep us free. Lord of hosts, we lift to You this day our gratitude and praise. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable TOM UDALL led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, August 5, 2009.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, Section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. UDALL thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, there will be a period of morning business until 10 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

Following that morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Sonia Sotomayor to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Debate will be controlled at alternating times, with the majority controlling the first hour, starting at 11 o'clock, and the time between 2 and 3 p.m. will be equally divided and controlled, with the majority controlling the first 30

minutes and the Republicans controlling the final 30 minutes.

Because of the special caucus the Democrats are having, we will be in recess from 3 until 5 p.m. When the Senate reconvenes, the Senate will resume the 1-hour alternating blocks of time, with the Republicans controlling the first hour.

In addition to the Supreme Court nomination that we need to deal with, there are two major items we need to complete before we leave for the August recess. First, we have to have some way of moving forward on the travel promotion and on the cash for clunkers. If we don't work something out on cash for clunkers, I will file a cloture motion this evening, which means we will have to have a cloture vote on Friday. If people want to use the 30 hours, it goes over until Saturday. I don't think that is the case. I have had a number of very good conversations with the Republican leader, and we all acknowledge that a significant majority want to move forward with this legislation that has resulted in the sales, in a period of days, of almost 300,000 vehicles. For us, the taxpayers, it creates jobs, helps our manufacturing base and helps the taxpayers, in effect, who loaned money to these two manufacturers. This will help them repay that money. It has been stimulative, and we recognize that.

That having been said, some people still don't like the program. So we have to figure a way to move through that. It is my understanding that the Democrats have one amendment. I have explained it to the Republicans. The Republicans have a long list of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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